



# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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WASHINGTON, D.C., FEB. 20, 1973 -- Senator Bob Dole today praised Senate passage of S.50, the Older Americans Comprehensive Services Amendments of 1973.

The Kansas Senator said, "The provisions of S.50 will not only develop new programs in areas of need but also help coordinate the many existing programs and benefits for older Americans, making them more readily available to those in need of assistance."

Dole said that S.50 attacks the problems of our older citizens by giving their programs a higher priority within our federal government structure. The bill expands the duties of the of the Administration on Aging and places the agency within the office of the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, so it can serve the interests of the elderly at the highest departmental level. The bill also establishes the Federal Council on the Aging which will serve as an advisory body to the Commission on Aging and also actively promote the interests of older Americans throughout the whole range of federal policies and programs. Specific benefits of S.50 are:

A National Information and Resource Clearinghouse for the Aging will be established to provide data on the federal programs benefiting the elderly.

Title III of the Older Americans Act provides grants for state and community programs for the aging.

Under the Training and Research Title of the Older American Act, the commissioner on aging in conjunction with the Secretaries of Housing and Urban Development and Transportation is directed to conduct a comprehensive study of the transportation problems of older Americans.

Provisions within the training and research title of S.50 will assist state agencies and educational institutions in their effort to attract qualified persons to the field of aging and to improve the training methods and research in the field.

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S.50 provides funds for the purchase, lease or repair of facilities to be used as a multipurpose senior center.

Title VII of the bill absorbs the nutrition service program for the elderly into the coordinated state and local delivery system required under the state plan. These provisions will help assure that the necessary nutritional materials will be accessible to all those in need of this service.

Other provisions of S. 50 will amend existing laws to make library facilities and services more accessible to the elderly and to make library materials more responsive to the needs of the elderly. In addition, Title I of the Higher Education Act is amended to encourage institutions of higher education to apply their resources toward meeting needs of the elderly. Adult education courses are to be developed and made accessible to the elderly to assist them in dealing successfully with the practical problems in their everyday lives, including the making of purchases, meeting their transportation and housing needs, and complying with governmental requirements such as those for obtaining citizenship, public assistance or social security benefits.

Senator Dole said he believed that Title IX, Community Service Employment for Older Americans; and Title X, Middle-Aged and Older Workers Training Act; should be considered with Manpower legislation and not with S.50 since the programs authorized under Titles IX and X deal with employment problems under the jurisdiction of the Department of Labor.